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8 **BEFORE THE**
MEDICAL QUALITY HEARING PANEL
9 **OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**
10 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

11 In the Matter of the Interim Suspension Order
Against:

12 **CHRISTOPHER DEEPTHA WIJEKOON, M.D.**

13 Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A140858

14 Respondent.

MBC Case No. 800-2020-064169
OAH Case No. 2021120082

INTERIM SUSPENSION ORDER

(Gov. Code § 11529)

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16 The Petition for Interim Suspension Order brought by William Prasifka, Executive Director
17 of the Medical Board of California, came on for a regularly noticed hearing at 9:00 a.m., on
18 December 20, 2021, before the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Honorable Jill
19 Schlichtmann, Presiding Administrative Law Judge presiding. The hearing was conducted over
20 Microsoft Teams. Rob Bonta, Attorney General, by Supervising Deputy Attorney General Jane
21 Zack Simon appeared for Petitioner. Respondent was present for the argument, and was
22 represented by his attorney, David Balfour.

23 The Administrative Law Judge, having reviewed the Petition, the declaration of Laura
24 Davies, M.D., Dr. Davies' report, the declaration of Raymond Leong, and the other supporting
25 documents, and having duly considered opposition presented by the Respondent, finds that
26 Respondent suffers from a severe alcohol use disorder that renders him unsafe to practice
27 medicine at this time, and that permitting him to engage in the practice of medicine will endanger
28 the public health safety or welfare. The Administrative Law Judge further finds that Petitioner is

1 reasonably likely to prevail on the merits of the Accusation and that the likelihood of injury to the
2 public outweighs the likelihood of injury to the Respondent in issuing the order.

3 IT IS ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. A140858 issued to
4 Christopher Deeptha Wijekoon, M.D., is SUSPENDED pending a final decision on an
5 Accusation to be filed in the time and manner prescribed by Government Code § 11529.
6 Respondent Christopher Deeptha Wijekoon, M.D., shall be and is hereby immediately restrained
7 and prohibited from:

8 (a) Practicing or attempting to practice as, or representing himself to be, a
9 physician and surgeon;

10 (b) Possessing, prescribing, dispensing, furnishing, administering or otherwise
11 distributing any controlled substance as defined by Health and Safety Code sections 11150 et
12 seq., or any dangerous drug as defined by Business and Professions Code section 4022;

13 (c) Recommending or approving the use of medical marijuana;

14 (d) Possessing or holding his physician's and surgeon's wall and wallet certificates,
15 any and all prescription pads and blanks, Drug Enforcement Administration forms, and any and
16 all Drug and Enforcement Administration permits, which documents shall be surrendered by him
17 to the Medical Board pending adjudication of this matter.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED on this 20th day of December, 2021.
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21 *Jill Schlichtmann*

22 JILL SCHLICHTMANN

23 Presiding Administrative Law Judge
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